

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 117395
ORIGIN SCS-06

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DRAFTED BY:CA/SCS:RDBELT

APPROVED BY:SCS-JLWARD

-----047786 090701Z /17

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY OSLO

UNCLAS STATE 117395

FOLLOWING REPEAT ATHENS 3769 ACTION SECSTATE INFO VALETT
SEVILLE AND MADRID DATED MAY 8, 1978.

QUOTE: UNCLAS ATHENS 3769

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS CASC, GR (RALPHS, SUSAN)

REF: STATE 116296 AKD PREVVOUS

1. EMBASSY INFORMED BY SCANDINAVIAN LINES THAT ROYAL VIKING SKY
WILL LAND AT ICAKLION, CRETE, MAY 9 AND IS NOT EXPECTED TO ARRIVE
AT PIRAEUS UNTIL MORNING OF MAY 10.

2. EMBASSY FURTHYR ADVISED BY DEPUTY HARBOR MASTER OF PIRAEUS THAT
IF WE REQUEST INVESTIGATION OF SUBJECTS DISAPPEARANCE BY PORT POLICE
AUTHORITIES, REQUEST MUST BE APPROVED BY MINISTER OF JUSTICE, AS IN-
CIDENT DID NOT HAKE PLACE IN GREEK WATERS AND THERE IS APPARENTRY
NO SUSPICION OF FOURL PLAY. HOWEVER, IF REQUEST COMES FROM CAPTAIN OF
VESSEL OR FROM NORWEGIAN EMBASSY, INVESTIGATION CAN BE CONDUCTED
WITHOUT ATTORNEY GENFRAL' AUTHORIZATION.

3. CONOFF SPOKE WITH NORWEGIAN AMBASSADOR WHO INFORMS THAT NORWEGIAK
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LAWQREQUIRJDS HIMMTO MAKE AN INVESTIGATION OF THE MTTER UPON ARRIVAL
OF THE VESSEL IN PIRAEUS, AND HE HAS NO OBJECTION IF GRJEK
AUTHORITIES DO THE SAME. CONSEQUENTLY, EMBASSY IS SENDING SEPTTEL
TO CAPTAUN OLSEN WITH FOLLOWING MESSAGE: QUOTE: U.S. EMBASSY,
ATHENS UNDERSTANDS NORWEGIAN EMBASSY WILL CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION
OF DISAPPEARANCE OF U.S. CITIZEN SUSAN RALPHS UPON YOUR ARRIVAL
PIRAEUS MAY 10. PLEASE BE ADVISE PIRAEUS PORT AUTHORITIES ALSO

WILLING TO CONDUCT INVESTIGATION PROVIDED YOU REQUEST IT. IF YOU
WISH TO CONTACT U.S. EMBASSY FROM IRAKLION MAY 9, PLEASE CALL
712-951 EXTENSIONS 427 OR 418 . UNQUOTE.

4. IF CAPTAIN DOES NOT WISH A LOCAL INVESTIGATION WHICH MIGHT
DELAY DEPARTURE FOR ALEXANDRIA (SCHEDULED FOR 2300 MAY 10), EMBASSY
WILL ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN RESULTS FROM NORWEGIAN AMBASSADOR. EMBASSY WILL

ALSO REQUEST COPY OF RELEVANT ENTRIES FROM SHIP'S LOG.

5. DOES DEPARTMENT WISH EMBASSY TO APPROACH MINISTER OF JUSTICE RE AUTH-

RIZATION TO CONDUCT INVESTIGATION IN THE EVENT THE CAPTAIN DOES NOT
WISH TO MAKE REQUEST OF PORT AUTHORITIES?

MCCLOSKEY

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